

Configuration and Development

BENEFITS

Enables powerful performance monitoring. SQL Server 2005 equips Microsoft Dynamics GP administrators with automated and enhanced monitoring tools that ensure 24x7 operations and optimal performance.

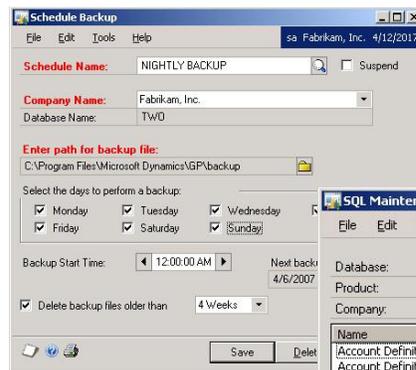
Provides rich data management capabilities. The comprehensive data management capabilities of SQL Server 2005 include advanced data mining, integration services, business intelligence, and high availability and manageability.

Delivers superior data backup and recovery. SQL Server 2005 backup capabilities protect data against hardware incidents and failures. Administrators can speed recovery with fine-grained error repairs, online backups, and controlled checkpoints.

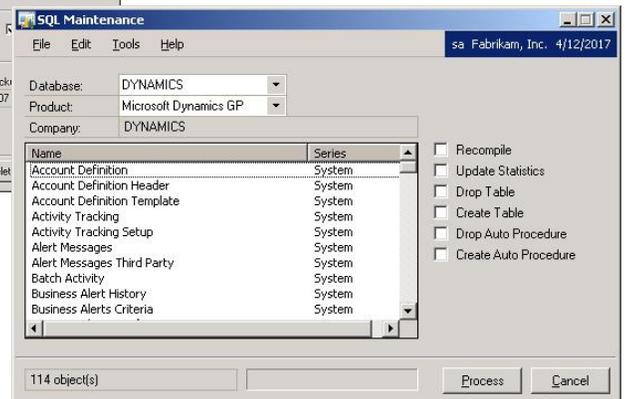
Achieve flexible business intelligence. Across your organization, users can build data warehouses of any size. They can also set up role-tailored access to the data they need, the way they want it, with online analytical processing (OLAP) cubes and Microsoft SQL Server Reporting Services.

Microsoft SQL Server 2005 and Microsoft Dynamics GP

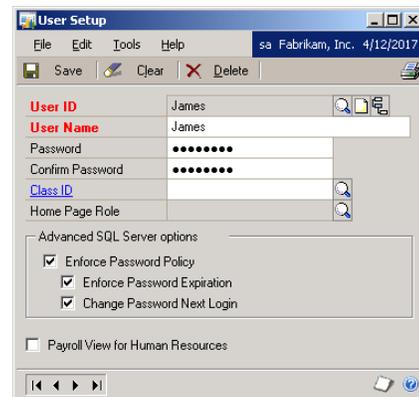
The data platform of choice for Microsoft Dynamics™ GP deployments, Microsoft® SQL Server™ 2005 offers enhanced availability of information, performance, and ease of operation to drive business intelligence, data management, and developer productivity.



ADMINISTRATORS CAN EASILY SCHEDULE SQL Server 2005 backups and perform SQL Server maintenance from within Microsoft Dynamics GP.



SQL SERVER 2005 ENABLES TIGHT ENFORCEMENT of complex password policies and expirations to help ensure tighter security and Sarbanes-Oxley compliance.



The Right Team to Deliver Next-Generation Solutions

Microsoft Dynamics GP and SQL Server developers collaborate to create solutions that leverage critical customer data to meet specific customer needs.

As a result of this alliance, Microsoft Dynamics GP has selected Microsoft .NET as the best way to deliver the new generation of Web services applications. Microsoft Dynamics GP customers can take full advantage of .NET-compatible tools for SQL Server, Microsoft BizTalk® Server, Microsoft Visual Basic®, simple object access protocol (SOAP), component object model (COM), and XML to permit all these applications and data sources to interact with Microsoft Dynamics GP.

Businesses using Microsoft Dynamics GP can now improve their decision making, streamline business processes, and strategically manage their growth with the assurance that their business solution will grow with them. Microsoft Dynamics GP is tightly integrated with SQL Server, Windows® operating systems, and Microsoft .NET enterprise servers, creating a business environment that helps reduce the overall cost of distributed computing and enables businesses to harness the power, flexibility, and award-winning functionality of Microsoft Dynamics GP.

Microsoft Dynamics GP includes leading SQL Server benchmarks that demonstrate the scalability of the Microsoft platform. With support for both 32-bit and 64-bit Microsoft platforms, Microsoft Dynamics GP delivers both a strong foundation and the ability to meet changing system requirements. (Analysis Cubes in Microsoft Dynamics GP is not compatible with 64-bit operating systems.)

Enhanced Processing to Ensure Optimized Performance

Superior Transaction Processing

Microsoft Dynamics GP workload tests confirm that SQL Server 2005 is able to take full advantage of new developments in hardware architectures, enhancing the ability of Microsoft Dynamics GP to handle substantial transaction volumes for large customers.

In one high volume benchmark test, transactions were entered and processed continuously, at the same time other activities—such as printing of Payables Management checks, printing of statements, Receivables Management month-end aging process, and paid transaction removal—were performed. Within 8 hours, 1.6 million business transactions were entered.

Leading TCO

SQL Server 2005 offers a compelling total cost of ownership for Microsoft Dynamics GP implementations.

SQL Server 2005 is licensed per processor, not per core, reducing the database cost by a factor of 3 or more.

At no extra cost, businesses can take advantage of SQL Server 2005 comprehensive data management capabilities, including advanced data mining, integration services, business intelligence, and high availability and manageability.

Enhanced Architecture—Application Availability

Businesses can more easily manage the thousands of indexes in Microsoft Dynamics GP databases with SQL Server online indexing capabilities. The enhanced SQL Server 2005 Database Tuning Advisor (DTA) now provides useful insight into tuning Microsoft Dynamics GP applications, taking into consideration the high number of indexes being used at any time.

SQL Server 2005 allows support for up to 4 GB of memory in 32-bit implementations and nearly unlimited memory in 64-bit implementations, enabling customers to deploy the largest Microsoft Dynamics GP implementations by increasing the space available for open database connectivity (ODBC) cursors. This solves a previously existing critical limitation, because Microsoft Dynamics GP opens hundreds of simultaneous cursors.

New T-SQL statements, such as intersect/except used in Marketing Analytics, provide a significant performance boost for Microsoft Dynamics GP queries.

Partitioned tables and indexes increase performance and scalability. Microsoft Dynamics GP can be configured to partition an extremely large, complex table (and its associated indexes) into multiple, manageable segments.

<p>Flexible, Fast Data Analysis</p>	<p>Give employees and management the information and tools they need to transform data into insight. Microsoft Dynamics GP users can reap the benefits of integration with SQL Server 2005 to access and analyze the information they need, the way they want it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generate reports from within Microsoft Dynamics GP using SQL Server Reporting Services—the primary reporting engine for Microsoft Dynamics GP—to author, manage, and deliver both paper-oriented and interactive, Web-based reports. • Build and analyze data warehouses of any size. • Organize and use data efficiently with more memory and speed, speeding up decision making. • Structure data and tables from Microsoft Dynamics GP into multidimensional cubes for easier viewing.
<p>Powerful Monitoring and Tools</p>	<p>SQL Server 2005 provides Microsoft Dynamics GP administrators with automated and enhanced monitoring and tuning tools that ensure 24x7 operations and optimal performance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Database Tuning Advisor (DTA) offers significant improvements over the Index Advisor. The DTA is well suited to understanding and processing the thousands of indexes existing in typical Microsoft Dynamics GP implementations. It enables the database administrator (DBA) to quickly analyze and implement database index improvements. • Surface area configuration tools improve manageability and security by giving administrators more control over the surface area of local and remote instances of SQL Server 2005. Administrators can easily enable services, network protocols, or other features of SQL Server 2005 and disable those that are not used.
<p>Enhanced Backup and Recovery</p>	<p>SQL Server 2005 backup capabilities protect data against hardware incidents and failures. Microsoft Dynamics GP administrators can speed recovery with fine-grained error repairs, online backups, and controlled checkpoints.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online backups now allow Transaction Log backups to be performed at the same time. This is an advantage for Microsoft Dynamics GP installations with 24x7 operations or ongoing batch processing during evening or off hours.
<p>Security</p>	<p>SQL Server 2005 enforces password complexity and password expiration—helping ensure a more secure database with policies that are easy to set up and maintain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SQL Server options for individual users can be set from within Microsoft Dynamics GP to help ensure that users adhere to password policies (such as minimum length, complexity, and history) and password expiration (requiring users to change their password on a regular basis). • Implementing these features through SQL Server 2005 enables Microsoft Dynamics GP to enforce domain policies that may already be in place, helping free administrators from the need to define and monitor additional policies.

<p>Platform Extension</p>	<p>SQL Server 2005 provides a single, powerful, highly productive and integrated development environment for extending, operating, and integrating Microsoft Dynamics GP deployments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A single platform makes it easier to extend and monitor the database when developing Microsoft Dynamics GP database procedures, business intelligence reports, data mining, and data extraction, transformation, and load (ETL). • Management Studio, an integrated tool suite, helps DBAs easily manage the database environment.
<p>High Availability</p>	<p>Provide the 24x7 availability that enterprises running Microsoft Dynamics GP business applications need. Microsoft Dynamics GP deployments support the new capabilities of SQL Server 2005 that enable highly available environments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Database Mirroring with transparent failover helps ensure that a hot-standby Microsoft Dynamics GP database copy is rapidly available in the event of hardware failure. It also allows for geographical redundancy, with network traffic being encrypted by default. • Database Snapshot enables recovery from operator error by instantly creating persistent, read-only copies of a Microsoft Dynamics GP database at a point in time. • Online Indexing within SQL Server 2005 makes it easy to create a new index, defragment and rebuild an existing index, or drop an index while the Microsoft Dynamics GP installation remains online. These features, which significantly reduce the typical downtime needed for database maintenance, are critical because Microsoft Dynamics GP implementations typically have hundreds of large indexes.

For more information about SQL Server 2005 and Microsoft Dynamics GP, visit www.microsoft.com/dynamics/gp.